

Dear Committee Member:

I live in Oregon where assisted suicide is legal. I was disturbed to read that Connecticut is considering a similar law.

Assisted-suicide has been legal here since 1997. In 2000, I was diagnosed with cancer and told that I had 6 months to a year to live. I knew that our law had passed, but I didn't know exactly how to go about doing it. I tried to ask my doctor, but he didn't really answer me. In hindsight, he was stalling me, trying to get me to change my mind.

I did not want to suffer. I wanted to do our law and I wanted my doctor to help me. Instead, he encouraged me to not give up and ultimately I decided to fight. I did chemotherapy and radiation. It is now nearly fourteen years later, and I am so happy to be alive!

I hope that my story will help discourage other states from making Oregon's mistake. For this reason, I allowed my story and photo to be used in this doctors' ad against assisted suicide.

http://maasdocuments.files.wordpress.com/2013/03/doctors-hb505_ad_8-22x17_4color319.pdf

Assisted-suicide should not be legal. Please vote "no" on H.B. No. 5326.

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